

Anas querquedula Linnaeus : Garganey. (Rairu).

One, in captivity on Hittadu Island, was caught with three others from a small flock that visited the island during the North-east Monsoon season.

Erolia temminckii (Leisler) : Temminck's Stint. (Kirru-Bondun)

One remained for several days, towards the end of May, in a swamp on Gan Island.

Erolia testacea (Pallas) : Curlew-Sandpiper. (Findon)

Plentiful in flocks up to 45/50, on Gan Island, during May and June.

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PART IV—AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

BY

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Miss Grandison and Mr. Battersby of the British Museum (Natural History) have very kindly supplied the following list of identifications of the Amphibian and Reptile collections. Due acknowledgement is made of, and thanks tendered for, their assistance. In the following list, the field-notes by the author are placed in brackets.

ANNOTATED LIST

TOADS

BUFONIDAE

Bufo melanostictus Schneider

Nos. 8, 9, half-grown: Malé.

Previously recorded from Malé Atoll and Addu Atoll (Laidlaw). (Plentiful in Malé; mainly nocturnal; noisy croaking on wet nights. Maldivian name=Bouk.)

LIZARDS

GEKKONIDAE

Hemidactylus frenatus (Schlegel)

Nos. 3, 22, 12, ♂♂; -?, 7, 21, ♀♀: Malé.

Abundant and widely distributed. Laidlaw reports it from fourteen localities. (Plentiful in buildings; chiefly nocturnal. Maldivian name=Hornu or Honnu.)

Hemidactylus brookii Gray

Nos. 4, -?, ♂♂; 23, 24, ♀♀; 13, half-grown: Malé.

Recorded by Laidlaw from Hululé, Malé Atoll as *H. gleadovii* (= *H. brookii*). (Plentiful; lives chiefly in trees, amongst the foliage. Maldivian name, as above.)

AGAMIDAE

Calotes versicolor (Daudin)

Nos. 15, 14, 16, 18, ♂♂; 6, 2, 5, half-grown ♀♀; 17, ♀: Malé.

Nos. 27, ♂; 26, -?, ♀; Hululaé Island, N. Malé Atoll.

Very abundant in Maldives. Laidlaw reports it from these and other localities. (Abundant on all islands visited. Maldivian name=Boundu.)

SCINCIDAE

Riopa albopunctata Gray

Nos. 19, half-grown; 99 (4 specimens), adult and half-grown; -?, half-grown; 28, half-grown; 33, adult; -? (2), adult and young; 34, half-grown; -?, adult; 29, adult: Malé.

Nos. -?, half-grown; -?, half-grown: Girawa Island, N. Malé Atoll.

Common species; Laidlaw records it as *Lygosoma albopunctatum*, from many localities. (Plentiful on most islands; lives amongst dead leaves. Maldivian name=Gahaheta.)

SNAKES

TYPHLOPIDAE

Typhlops braminus (Daudin)

No. -?, adult: Girawa Island, N. Malé Atoll.

A wide-spread species. Laidlaw reports it from Manadu in Miladumadulu Atoll. (One only, seen; dug up in loose soil; said to be unknown in Malé. Maldivian name=Nanuguttee.)

COLUBRIDAE

Lycodon aulicus capucinus Boie

No. 32, ♀ : Hululé, N. Malé Atoll.

Nos. 53, -?, 25, -?, 41, -?, 37, 30, 31, 38, ♀ ♀ ; 40, 10, -?, 39, 11, ♂ ♂ : Malé, N. Malé Atoll.

Although the anal is usually divided this plate is single in two of the specimens of this collection; the anomalous condition has previously been reported. Two specimens recorded by Laidlaw from Hululé as variety A, which means without spots on the labials. This character is not constant and such condition may also be found in variety D. [Plentiful in Malé; chiefly nocturnal; lives in holes in trees and walls; feeds on lizards (*Calotes versicolor*). Said to be the only snake known in Malé. Maldivian name=Nanuguttee.]

HYDROPHIIDAE

Pelamis platurus (Linne)

Nos. 2, 3, 4, Adults: Himmafurri Island, N. Malé Atoll.

These three specimens represent two colour varieties, two of the black and brown forms and one as variety E with an intervening yellow stripe.

Laidlaw reports one specimen as *Hydrus platurus*, var. E. (Taken in the sea off a reef some 20 miles NE. of Malé; reported to be plentiful outside the main reefs but rarely seen inside; none seen at Malé. Maldivian name=Feng-harufar.)

TURTLES

Eretmochelys imbricata (Linne)

2 young: Malé. Caught 1 December 1956.

Laidlaw records this species as being very common off the Maldives and Laccadives. (Plentiful around Malé; Maldivian name=Carhambu.)

None of the above species was previously represented in the B.M. from the Maldives.

Laidlaw recorded the following species in addition to those listed above:

SNAKE

Aspidura trachyprocta Cope, from Malé.

TORTOISE

Nicoira trijuga thermalis (Lesson) from Huluhé, Malé Atoll.

(Plentiful in swamps on Huluhé island close to Malé; reported to have been liberated there. (Maldivian name=Kandhu Kahambu).

TURTLES

Chelone mydas (Linne)

A recent report on the Maldives (Deraniyagala 1956) increases the herpetofauna with:

Dermochelys coriacea (Linne): A nest on an island near Huluhé.

Caretta caretta gigas Deraniyagala: Two nests on Gulifalu Island.

LIZARDS

Mabuya carinata (Schneider): A single specimen from Malé.

REFERENCES

Laidlaw, F. F. in Gardiner (1902): The Fauna and Geography of the Maldivic and Laccadive Archipelagos 1, pl. 11. pp. 119-122. (Included in this is a frog from the Laccadives, *Rana tigrina*.)

Deraniyagala, P. E. P. (1956): Zoological collecting at the Maldives in 1932. *Spolia Zeylan.* 28 (1): 7-15.